THE WHITE MAIL CAR

The Pretty Work Done by the Pennsylvania Avenue Postal Route.

SAVES TIME AND MONEY EVERY HOUR

The System is to Be Developed and Extended to Other Lines.

MAILED ON THE ROAD



W HEN THE SUN goes down tonight the little white mail car on the Washington and Georgetown line will have completed its first week of service. Yesterday a Star reporter tumbled through the brass-lined doors, landing half on his head and somewhat on his feet, and made the round trip

to observe the working of the new system. The car itself is an old-fashioned horse car remodeled. The interior fittings are entirely rew, and comprise the latest conveniences in railway mail equipment. The car being of the old-fashioned type is too short, and rides too roughly to be all that could be desired. It is about sixteen feet long, and the trucks are in the middle of the car, so that with the slack of the train and the rough starting and stopping, the inmates are pretty badly jounced about, and not infrequently thrown off their feet. On the first day's trip the two clerks were more than once thrown off their feet, and on one occasion both flat on the floor. The fittings, consist of a large pigeonhole case at one end of the car, with 240 compartents, the bottom of the shelving slanting downward on the inside, so that a letter once thrown into a pigeonhole cannot by any means fall out. In the bottom of each pigeonhole is a hole to prevent accumulations of dust. On one side of the car is an iron rack, equipped with many stout iron



Just Received.

hooks, on which the mail pouches are hooks, on which the mail pouches are hung. On the other side is a broad, flat table, to receive the contents of the sacks and pouches that are put on the car. Tuckad about in various convenient nooks and corners are drawers and cupboards for the storage of twine, route slips, paper and the numberless useful things required in the railway clerk's daily round of toil.

On each side of the car are large doors.

the railway clerk's daily round of toil.

On each side of the car are large doors, nicely bound in brass, through which the mail bags and sacks are passed out and received. There is but one entrance door to the car, the pigeonhole case occupying one whole end and returning three or four feet on each side of the car. Windows and doors are covered with strong iron netting, and in every way the car is protected and strengthened from any possible attack.

Not an Experiment.

The introduction of the street railway mail car in Washington, while it is new here, is by no means experimental, as scores of these cars are in operation in New York. Brooklyn, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati and elsewhere. In handling the enormous mails of those cities these cars have been found to be of surprisingly great service, both in saving time and expense, so that it was only a matter of time when they that it was only a matter of time when they should be introduced here in Washington. The main line of the Washington and Georgetown railway, traversing the entire length of the city through its main artery of traffic and travel, was naturally the first to be thought of when it was proposed to introduce this service. Under a contract with the Post Office Department, the railwith the Post Office Department, the rali-road company, a month ago, undertook to provide a car suitable for the service, and its shops were set at work upon it. Quick work was done with good results. Second Assistant Postmaster General Neilson and Mr. Charles W. Vickery, superintendent of the third division of the United States rali-way mail service have given their diligent way mail service, have given their diligent personal attention to all details, and hardly personal attention to all details, and hardly a day passes that they do not make a round trip on the car to note its working and suggest improvements and conveniences. To Gen. Neilson the credit of the new system is due. It was his conception, and it is re-garded as the greatest postal discovery of the times.

How It Works.

This street mail service is known as the "Pennsylvania avenue railway post office." It is directly in charge of Superintendent Vickery, and is scheduled and systematized precisely as would be any other route in the railway mail service. The present schedule provides for receipt and delivery of mail provides for receipt and delivery of mail at fifteen points on the line. The first is the terminus in Georgetown. Here is a large, bright red box, where letters may be mailed and to which only the clerks of the railway mail service have access. The keys carried by the collectors of the city post office will not open this box. Only those carried by the railway mail clerks open it. Collecting the mail deposited in this box at the terminus, the car makes its next stop. the terminus, the car makes its next stor at the Georgetown post office, known



At the Door.

Station A. Here a wagon with a letter chation A. Here a wagon with a letter deficiency in an examination conducted by considered and porter stands ready to receive the mail to be thrown off and taken on.

The next stop is made at substation No. 24, at 2500 Pennsylvania avenue. Here there is no wagon, but simply a messenger, who delivers a pouch. Stops are also made at the stop is made at the service develops and unfolds more of these boxes will be employed. At present about seventy are used. At present about seventy are used. The present about seventy are used the region of the end of the car covers all destinations in the city of Washington.

15th streets, where pouches are exchanged for station C, at 1413 F street; then at substation No. 18, corner of 13th and Pennsylvania avenue; substation No. 6, at 627 Pennsylvania avenue, and at 6th street. Here a mail wagon stands ready, waiting for the arrival of the car. The heavy sacks and pouches destined for the general city post office and for the Baltimore and Potomac station are thrown off and sacks and pouches intended for Capitol Hill and other, points east are thrown on. The next stop is at substation No. 26, corner of 3d street and Pennsylvania avenue; again at the coris at substation No. 26, corner of 3d street and Pennsylvania avenue; again at the corner of the avenue and 2d street southeast and at the corner of 4th and the avenue, where a wagon from station B receives and delivers. The next stop is at substation No. 28, at 659 Pennsylvania avenue southeast, then at substation No. 8, on 8th street southeast, and finally at the terminus at the Navy Yard, at the corner of 8th and M streets southeast.

southeast.

During the initial week of this service During the initial week of this service pouches have been delivered for Georgetown, Capitol Hill, F street and the general city post office. No deliveries have been made to the substations, but collections made from all of them. The amount of matter handled on a single round trip varies. During Christmas week it was naturally very large, but even on such an ordinary day as vesterday it must have naturally very large, but even on such an ordinary day as yesterday it must have amounted to over a ton during the whole trip. To those who have seen little of the inside of the post office the contents of the mail bags emptied on the table would have been a surprise. Besides the hundreds of packages of letters and bushels of newspapers there were all sorts of packages, some in huge boxes, some in sacks and dangerously long rolls.

The Daily Trips.

The car is in charge of D. J. Partello and A. B. Carter, both bright, active young clerks, who have served their time in handling mails and who were selected for this assignment because of their efficiency and accuracy. They do not work together on the car, but divide up the day between them. Mr. Partello comes on duty at 5:36 in the morning and runs up to 1 o'clock, when he is relieved by Mr. Carter, who remains on the car until 11:43 at night. The first start is made at 5:36 a.m. from Georgetown and at 6:55 a.m. from the Navy Yard. The last trip from Georgetowr starts at 10:24 p.m. and the last one from the Navy Yard at 11:06 p.m. On holidays but 5 round trips are made; on Sundays but two, and on other days thirteen. It takes thirty-seven minutes to go from terminus to terminus, with five minutes interval between arrivals and departures. When the car reaches the terminus it is at once taken charge of by the employes of the road and switched into position at at the rear of each train. When going westward the closed end of the car fronts the train, and it is possible to see all that is going on inside. This is a source of endless interest and amusement to the thousands of people who ride on this train during the day. At every stop and each terming and accuracy. They do not work tosands of people who ride on this train dur ing the day. At every stop and each terminus the car is usually surrounded by a little knot of boys and men, all curious and eager to see the inside of the car and what is going on is going on.

No Ensy Job.

From start to finish there is hardly a moment of cessation in the work. Neither Mr. Partello nor Mr. Carter were able yesterday to do any talking. Mr. Geo. R. Schultz, examiner in the third division of the railway mail service, very kindly made

the round trip with The Star reporter, and explained the mu!titudinous complications of the service. Mr. Schultz is an old railway mall clerk, and now and then he dipped in and assisted Partello and Carter theoring. and Carter, throwing packages and letters with all the skill and confidence of one to the manner born. The first thing the clerk does with a pouch of mail thrown on at any point is



pouch of mail thrown on at any point is to unlock the stout, heavy, leathern pouch and dump its entire centents on the table. Hanging on te heavy iron rack are canvas sacks for second, third and fourth-class matter, and leathern pouches for letters. Sometimes the packages of letters have had their stamps car celled and sometimes not. When the service is in full working order the various stations and substations will cancel all letters.

Nevertheless, yesterday several pouches came aboard the car, with hundreds of unstamped letters, and the clerks stamped them with the old-fashioned rubber stamp, moving like lightning and rattling the letters under their hands with the precision and regularity of a machine. Three leathern pouches hanging on the iron rack received the letter mail. One of these ceived the letter mail. One of these pouches was labelled to go to the general city post office, another to station B, on Capitol Hill, and the third to catch the afternoon train from New York at the Baltingers and Baltones station.

ly constituted the classification of the letter mail received on the car. Moving with the celerity and skill of a magician. the clerk slashed open packages of let-ters and began to throw one here an one there into the pigeon-hole case, unwhen a few blocks traversed, the entire contents of the pouch had been dis-posed of. As the successive stations were

passed and pouches



Mr. Partello.

were thrown aboard, this process was re peated. Out of every pouch there were a number of packages that did not have to be opened, but could be thrown at once into the pouches on the rack. In regard to these packages, Mr. Schultz explained that where in the substations they have a num-ber of letters going to the same city they where in the substations they have a number of letters going to the same city they were tied up and a slip address, with the name of the clerk placed on the under slde of the package, the top letter furnishing the address for the guldance of the railway mail clerk. All letters to go on a route embracing a number of cities in different states are tied up with the package slip on this slip the address of the route. states are tied up with the package sup on top. On this slip the address of the route is printed in plain letters that can be read quickly and easily by the clerks. For the present many of these addresses have to be written by the clerk, because the new service has not yet fully brought out all the accessories required.

By Regular Schedule.

The contract with the railroad company requires stops to be made by the motor man at each of the fifteen points along the line, where mail is received or delivered without any signal being given, but when the stop has been made, it is expected that the mail clerk will signal for the train to start again. The stops are, some of them, very short. At other points, however, it sometimes takes very lively work not to cause a delay. For instance, at 6th street a great deal of mail is exchanged at each of the twenty-six stops made there during the day. The orders issued to the clerks direct them to make up pouches for all the principal trains going out of the Baltimore and Potomac station over the Pennsylvania, Southern, Washington and Ohio, Atlantic Coast Line, Chesapeake and Ohio and the stop has been made, it is expected that tributary lines. All these trains are scheduled by number, railway mail route and time, and whenever the car stops at 6th street the clerk has a pouch ready for that train which is next to leave the Pennsylvalle and the control of vania station after the car reaches 6th

the car approaches the end of the route the clerk begins to "tie out his case," as it is called. Taking the letters which have been thrown into each of the pigeon have been thrown into each of the pigeon holes, he ties them with the coarse tow string which Uncle Sam provides for his mail clerk, and, with a quick turn once lengthwise of the letter and twice crosswise, the clerk deftly ties all letters destined for a common point, with a slip on top, if the package is to go over a route embracing a number of addresses or becombined in the package. embracing a number of addresses, or be-neath if they go to any one city, writes his name on the slip and throws it into its appropriate pouch. He then writes his name on the slip to fix his responsibility for the work he does. Every clerk keeps tab on every other clerk, with whom he has dealinest and climitations are stated. every other clerk, with whom he has dealings, and all mistakes are reported and charged up to the man who makes them. Once a year every clerk has his standing fixed by his bercentage of errors and his efficiency in an examination conducted by the examiner in his division.

Not all of the 240 pigeonholes are used at present. As the service develops and unfolds more of these hoxes will be employ-

One box is labeled "Official;" another "Senate P. O.;" another, "House P. O.;" another, "Box Department." Each station and substation also has a pigeonhole. The letters thrown into any of these boxes are tied up, addressed with slips and when sent to the general city post office can be easily distributed as they are addressed.

Besides the facility for prompt dispatch of mails collected at the various substations, the public can drop letters on the mail car itself. This opportunity thus far, however, has received very little attention. Perhaps a dozen letters a day are mailed on the car itself. They fall into a flat chute close to the table where the clerk distributes his mails, and he is bound to see them the moment they fall into the car.

A Registered Sack.

On the trip westward yesterday from the Navy Yard there came aboard at 4th and Pennsylvania avenue southeast, from the station B wagon, a small brown-striped THE ADVANTAGES OF CLERKS canvas bag. Its lock was probably the most peculiar ever made. This, Mr. Shultz explained, was an inner registered letter sack. Its label stated that it was sent by the postmaster at station B to the general city post office. As quick as he saw it, Mr Carter whipped out a small book and examined the lock, which was a peculiatumbler construction. The combination as seen clearly on the tumblers was U-710.



Moving back a little copper slide another combination appeared as O-257. The clerk quickly entered these in his book, togethe quickly entered these in his book, together with the label address. Then upon a green card, somewhat like a postal card, he wrote his own address, "W. E. Carter, Pennsylvaria avenue railway post office, Washington, D. C.," and upon the reverse side the numbers and address on the lock, and threw it in the station B pigeonhole in his case, in the station is pigeonnole in his case, to be tied up in the next package of letters to go to the station B post office, where the postmaster would sign it and return it to Mr. Carter, to whom it would be a receipt for the registered sack. The registered sack itself was put into the pouch, addressed to the general city post office.

The Direct Advantages.

The direct advantages secured by this mail car on Pennsylvania avenue appear at once in the first week's service. It saves one handling of the mails. Instead of dispatching accumulations of mail at Georgetown, Capitol Hill and other stations at regular intervals to the general city post office, there to be assorted and distributed by cierk incessantly at work does what eight or ten are required to do at intervals with large accumulations of mail. At the same time mail to go out of the city goes directly from each point of collection to the train at the Baltimore and Potomae station. For letters within the city the highest degree of promptness has been attained. For instance, if at one minute before the departure of the car at the terminus in Georgetown a letter addressed to some resident of Capitol Hill is dropped in the big. red. railway mail box, the clerk gets it, and in thirty-one minutes hands it off the car in the pouch labeled to go to station B. Flye minutes later the wagon reaches that station, the pouch is emptied, the entire contents distributed, and at 3 o'clock the carriers are out on their routes to make their deliveries. A letter mailed at a time to catch the carriers time schedule will go from sender to receiver in about three converters of each are

Hith and 7th street lines.
Today an order went into effect by which all mail for the navy yard up to 6 p.m. is delivered to an orderly sent by Commodore Howell to the navy yard terminus. Hitherto the latest delivery to the navy yard was made at 3 p.m. This new delivery by the car will include all New York mail leaving that city at 9:30 and all Washington mail up to 6 p.m.

ington mail up to 6 p.m.
It is expected that when larger cars are used, the postal collectors who gather up the contents of the boxes in the neighbor-hood of Pennsylvania avenue will get on the car, have the rail collections canceled by the clerk and made up for their destined carrier routes. So, too, will carrier delivroutes coming into the city, ready for prompt service by carriers, who will a routes coming into the city, ready for prompt service by carriers, who will at stated points along the line meet the car and get their packages assorted and in proper order for instant delivery.

Gen. Nellson said today that before long all official mail from the various departments would be sent and received through the street railway mail cars. The most has

ments would be sent and received through the street railway mail cars. The weather bureau, State, War and Navy, White House, Department of Justice, Treasury, the Capi-tol and Congressional Library are all on the route of this first car. With wagon ex-changes the Post Office and Interior De-partments and the pension office could be accommodated now and when a car's accommodated now, and when a car is placed on the 7th street line the system easily put in operation

PIANO TOUCH ON PAPER. A Device That Has Lately Been Used-

It is Simple. From the Globe-Democrat.

Evenness of touch is the elusive quality that a plane student thinks himself for tunate if he can attain in a dozen years of laborious practice. One of the reasons for the tediousness of progress in touch study is the difficulty of telling by the mere sound whether the notes are pressed with absolute equality of force. A device that can be relied upon to give a graphic rep resentation of the tension and pressure of the fingers, in such a form that a student can actually see what he is doing, and correct his own errors, may be the means o saving years of hard work to plane play ers. Such an apparatus has been con-

structed in France. It is quite simple in construction, and consists chiefly of a rubber tube placed under the keyboard, united at its extremities by a registering drum, also of rubber. When the notes of the piano are played, the pressure on the tube plano are played, the pressure on the tube causes a wave of air to be sent through it into the drum, to which is attached a pen that records its movement on a moving roll of paper. The wave makes the drum vi-brate, and the motion is communicated to the pen, which leaves irregular marks on the paper. The board on which the tube rests is regulated by means of wedges adjusted to a screw. When raised, it almost reaches the notes of the plano, and the appliance is then ready for the work of registration. When no music is being played the recording tape shows simply d the recording tape shows simply straight line. The instrument is extren ly sensitive, and the peaks seen on the re-cording tape vary in height according to the degree of force with which a note is struck. In the case of an even shake the peaks show like a long drawn out range of miniature mountains, of uniform height and shape; a characteriess, lop-sided shake, on the contrary, is shown on the paper as a series of weak, irregular and jumbled markings. This instrument is likely to be of great service as an educational agent. Even artists of high attainments can de-rive much benefit from it, since the perrive much benefit from it, since the performance of a planoforte classic by a great artist can be graphically impressed on the recording scroll and can be afterward followed and studied from beginning to end. This may prove to be almost as valuable as a method of musical tuition as the phonograph is found to be in the teaching of language accent and enunciation.

How Congressmen Pass the Hours of Daylight.

THEY HAVE VERY LITTLE WORK TO DO

The Labor of This Session Falls to a Few Leaders.

The work of a member of Congress, unless he happens to be a leader upon whom re-sponsibilities fall, is very light this session. There is practically no patronage hunting to be done, the republicans having the wrong sort of an administration to deal with, and the democrats having got about all they have to hope for in the way of appointments from Mr. Cleveland. With the disagreeable task of office hunting out of the way, there is comparatively little of real troublesome work that a member's clerk may not relieve him of. These clerks are great institutions, and the man who comes to Congress now for the first time cannot appreciate what a hard time his predecessor had before clerks were allowed. The manual labor of writing a large number of letters each day and of looking up information for speeches or for any other purpose is now escaped.

But few men in the present House have the prospect of hard work before them. Most of the committees will have nothing to do. The committee on ways and means, which is usually hard worked, has finished its labors, as far as any one can see, and can look complacently upon the future. The committees on elections have a great deal to do, but the work is divided up, and it is to do, but the work is divided up, and it is expected that all will be soon over with. The appropriations committee has its usual work, and those other committees having appropriation bills cannot enjoy immunity from labor, but beyond that there is hardly any work in sight that the committees that the committee of the committee tees will have to do, unless, to get cam-paign material, they take up investigations. Bills are numerous enough, but very few of them demand attention, or are likely to

receive any.

Upon two or three members on the demo-cratic side and half a dozen or so on the republican side will fall the labor of looking out for party politics. These leaders have to join the issues on the big general questions and look up the records for campaign material to put into speeches. The leaders must do this; others may or may not assist, just as they feel about it.

Leisure Time.

The average member of the House has ample time to think over his own affairs. or to study and prepare himself for a career, or to devote to theater going and pleasure. He does not have to get to the Capitol much before 12 o'clock, unless he happens to have been assigned to one of the few working committees, and he does not always have to go to the Capitol at all. The present peculiar conditions make it so that he does not have to work hard unless he is ambitious, and even the most ambitious may be discouraged of any effort to gratify their desire of emiaence through work. What time the member gets up in the morning depends upon what time he work. What time the member gets up in the morning depends upon what time he goes to bed, and that may depend upon there to be assorted and distributed by clerks, it is by one operation collected and distributed on the car. In other words, one clerk incessantly at work does what eight that his morning's mail is brought around.

· Early Morning Duties. It will consist of maybe half a dozen newspapers, a lot of pamphlets, tracts and adverisements, and from ten to twenty-five letters. All the newspapers except the local paper of his own home goes into the waste basket promptly. These are followed by the town a letter addressed to some resident of Capitol Hill is dropped in the big, red, railway mail box, the clerk gets it, and in thirty-one minutes hands it off the car in the pouch labeled to go to station B. Five minutes later the wagon reaches that station, the pouch is emptied, the entire contents distributed, and at 3 o'clock the carriers are out on their routes to make their deliveries. A letter mailed at a time to catch the car on a trip that will nicely dovetail into the carriers' time schedule will go from sender to receiver in about three-quarters of an hour. Better service than this is inconceivable.

So great are the advantages secured by this new system that it is only a question of time when cars will be placed on the 14th and 7th street lines.

Today an order went into effect by which all mail for the navy year and street in the same stereotyped form, are dictated. The clerk is then anstructed to look up what is required by the other letters and to make reply according to the result of his research of inquiries. The member then reads his home paper and looks over the principal features of one of the Washingan and finally by some of the letters. Most of the latter bave to be answered. Some of them require something to be looked up at the departments or elsewhere, and involve work before clerks were allowed, this letter writing involved very trying labor for the member. Now the stenographer is called in. Those letters switch can be answered. Generally the reply can be answered. Some of them require something to be looked up at the departments or elsewhere, and involve work before clerks were allowed, this letter writing in volved very trying labor for the member. Now the stenographer is called in. Those letters which can be answered. Some of them require something to be looked up at the departments or elsewhere, and involve work before clerks were allow pamphlets and advertisements, and finally features of one of the Washington papers, cuts out anything about himself, glances at the stock market reports, reads the head-lines of the foreign news, reads speculations concerning Congress and politics, and then sets out for the day. If he has a committee meeting at the Canitol all this morning meeting at the Capitol, all this morning work will be shortened and much of it work will be shortened and much of it postponed until later in the day. If the meeting is called for 10 o'clock, the usual hour, he will manage to be on hand by 10:30 or 11. If there is no meeting of this sort demanding his attention, the hour of his arrival at the Capitol is regulated largely by his fordered. his fondness for being seen in his seat, or for mingling in the gossip ante-session as-semblage. He is likely to appear on the floor of the House any time between 11:15

At the Capital.

Whatever time he has to spare between his arrival and the hour of prayer is devoted to gossip with his colleagues. Near the elevator, by the basement entrance principally used, is the House post office. Here the member stops on his way to the hall of the House and gets his second morning mail. He may get from two to half a dozen letters. These he usually reads during the session of the House. If he did not have a clerk, he would have to answer them as he read the but, as it now is, a note on the back will remind him of their contents, and he puts them away until he can get hold of his stenographer. Some members do not have any of their mail delivered at their lodgings, but get it all at the post office on their arrival at the Capitol, and read it during the session. Some also postpone reading their newspapers until the House meets. If the member has any bills he has been asked to introduce, or which he has had his stenographer prepare for him, he hands them to one of the clerks at the desk or puts them in the receptacle designated for bills at some time during the day. If he has a bill or resolution he wants unanimous con-sent to have considered during the morning sent to have considered during the morning hour, he endeavors to see the Speaker before the House meets, to arrange for recognition, and if he does not succeed in this he takes his place in the semi-circular space in front of the Speaker's desk immediately after prayer, and, with bill held in the air, awaits the Speaker's recognition, meanwhile making frantic efforts to catch that evasive orb, the Speaker's eye. When the recognition has been arranged beforehand, he has but to stand in his place on the floor and but to stand in his place on the floor and address the speaker. During the session, after the morning boar, the member seldom after the morning hour, the member seldom pays any attention to the regular proceed-ings unless they personally interest him.

The Daily Grind. His time is then domanded between reading letters or the newspapers, looking over the Record, discussing some question or exchanging gossip and stories with some of his colleagues, at his seat, in the cloak room or in the Speaker's lobby; receiving visitors in the lobbies, going to lunch, and making an occasional visit to the other wing of the Capitol to see his Senator. If he is easily entertained, and is not given to talking, he may lean back in his chair most of the day, entertained, and is not given to talking, he may lean back in his chair most of the day, with his hands folded, and listen in an abstracted, inattentive sort of way to what is going on about him, without participating in it or fully realizing what it is. Sometimes, selzed with a fit of industry or with the view of having his evening free, he may retire to the Speaker's lobby or to a committee room, with his clerk, and finish off his correspondence. An occasional trip to the restaurant may relieve the monotony, or he may saunter through the corridors, seeing the crowd and being seen, or he may sit for awhile with a visitor in one of the sit for awhile with a visitor in one of the Usually as much time is occupiin going to the corridors in response to cards as in any other way. It is seldom that he pays any attention to the business of the House, except on some special occasion, or when he has a direct interest in what is or when he has a direct interest in what is up. After adjournment he either gets and other mail at the post office or it is delivered meet until the following Monday at Wesley

letters during the day, or he may have fifty. The lighter mail of the afternoon he may dispose of before dinner or he may let it go over until morning. After dinner it is a call, the theater, visitors, an evening in the parlor with the ladies, a loaf in the hotel corridors, or a hunt through volumes in preparation of a speech held in contemplation, to be delivered at some time, according to sentiment and circumstances. The theaters and the hotel lobbies are the most common places of resort in the evening.

The men who, from their positions, have responsibility for the policy of the House and have to take charge of the business, in the capacity of leaders, have much more work to do. They have scarcely time to dispose of what is forced upon them, and sometimes they point out lines of work for other members, whose time is not so much occupied. They delve themselves, and endeavor to inspire the less responsible, and, therefore, less active members, to work and research which may be useful to make a political point or to aid or injure a proposition.

IN THE CHURCHES

The congregation of Trinity German Lutheran Church has called Rev. Mr. Schlerf of Milwaukee to the pastorate of the church. He is recommended by the presiding officer of the synod. Rev. Wm. C. H. Luebkert, the present pastor, is to preach his farewell sermon tomorrow.

It was mentioned two or three weeks ago in The Star that Rev. W. H. Gotwald, D. D., pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, had resigned his position, and the resignation had been accepted by the church council. Since then the council itself has resigned for the most part, and the congregation, as a whole, have refused to accept Dr. Gotwald's resignation. It seems very likely now that the doctor will be pre-

vailed upon to remain in Washington.
Thursday of last week the members of
the Marist College at Brookland, including

vailed upon to remain in Washington.

Thursday of last week the members of the Marist College at Brookland, including priests and students, celebrated the golden jubilee of the entry into the order of their superior general, Rev. Father A. Martin, a native of France.

Assembly Presbyterian Church is to celebrate the week of prayer by services. Beginning with the evening of January 5, there are to be meetings every evening, which will be conducted by Rev. C. H. Little, D. D., of Logansville, Ind., brother to Rev. Dr. Little, pastor of Assembly.

Yesterday evening the Sunday school of Assembly held their annual Christmas entertainment, which included a program of music and other exercises, concluded by a distribution of boxes of candy. The collection which was taken up is to be given to the Central Union Mission and to the George Maulsby Home for Newsboys.

Monday evening the Young Men's Christian Association held the closing exercises of the first term of its educational department. President L. Cabeli Williamson delivered an address, during the course of which he talked about "Punctuality and Earnestness" as valuable traits of character in young men. Frank S. Brown gave five or six recitations, both humorous and otherwise, and Chas. Hayden Chase played and sang. Brief addresses were also made by Mr. Hanna, shorthand teacher; W. C. Henry, arithmetic and bookkeeping teacher; J. W. Crawford, typewriting teacher, and Harry O. Hine, in charge of the English department. Mr. Hanna was presented with a handsome rocking chair by the members of his class, and at the close of the entertainment candy was distributed. There were in all about seventy-five of the students present, and during the year the membership in this branch of the Y. M. C. A. reached above 250.

The next meeting of the District Epworth League, not counting the installation of officers meeting, is to be held in the early part of February, under the charge of the spiritual department, Rev. F. J. Clark, first vice president-elect, in charge. The officers h

the new board of control is not to get to-gether until next week. When this takes the new board of control is not to get together until next week. When this takes
place, President Mathews will be presiding
over a nearly entirely new board, as recent
chapter elections have changed the representation considerably. W. H. Kerr will
succeed R. L. Bains as president of
Foundry Chapter; C. E. Roberts succeed
Robert I. Carr at Douglas Memorial; R.
L. Middleton, vice F. T. Israel, at McKendree; J. Finney Engle, vice Jas. A. Edgar,
at Waugh; J. W. Lynn, vice George S. Gibson, at Grace, Edward W. Williams, vice
M. A. Watson, at Hamline; J. S. Barker,
vice W. H. Main, at Wesley.

Services are now being held in the lecture
reom of the new Second Baptist Church,
colored, and work is soon to begin again on
the finishing of the main auditorium. A
fair has been held in the lecture room for
the past month, and is now about closing.
The proceeds from this will be devoted to
the work of completion.

The Young Men's Christian Association
has issued cards of invitation for a reception for young men on New Year day, from
3 to S o'clock, at the First Congregational
Church. This reception is to be held jointly with one which Rev. Dr. S. M. Newman
and wife are accustomed to hold annually.
On the part of the association, Mrs. L.
Cabell Williamson, the wife of the presi-

On the part of the association, Mrs. L. Cabell Williamson, the wife of the president, will head the receiving party.

A collection of fossil fish, which is re-

A conection of 108811 fish, which is reported to be worth \$1,000 and of great value in studying prehistoric fish, has been received at the American University, through the medium of the North Ohio conference. The donor is Mr. William Keppler, and in the collection are a great variety of specimens, most of which

ler, and in the collection are a great variety of specimens, most of which are, or rather were, gathered from west of the Alleghanies.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of Ryland M. E. Church have elected as president B. F. Gilmore, and Clyde Todd as secretary.

As a result of the fall conferences in the west of the Methodist Episcopal Church there has been nearly \$13,000 subscribed to the Asbury Memorial Hall of the American

there has been nearly \$13,000 subscribed to the Asbury Memorial Hall of the American University. The amounts and the confer-ences which subscribed are, in detail, as follows: Detroit conference, \$5,012; the Michigan conference, \$4,016; the North Ohlo conference, \$3,005; the Central Swedish con-ference, \$350. conference, \$3,605; the Central Swedish conference, \$350.

John D. Flint of Fall River, Mass., has

John D. Flint of Fall River, Mass., has made a large donation to the American university, reference to which has been made in The Star. A present of a complete set of twenty-three volumes of the Pioneer Collections of Michigan has also been received from the Secretary of State for that state, Washington Gardner. Six books have been received from F. K. Smart of Detroit.

Detroit. . A lectern, in the form of an open leaf of A lectern, in the form of an open leaf of brass, has been set up in St. Margaret's P. E. Church, and all the other chancel furniture, including altar rail, pulpit and communion set, and within the past two weeks the handsome pews made in New York arrived, and are now in their places. Professor John Porter Lawrence has organized a choir, which has rendered the music on several occasions. The personnel of the sor John Porter Lawrence has organized a choir, which has rendered the music on several occasions. The personnel of the choir is as follows: Organist and director, John Porter Lawrence; precentor. Edwin I. Tracy; sopranos and altos. Charley Beard, Preston Cullum, Howard Bayley, Christopher Cox, Robert Corby, Thomas Dorsey, Conrad Doyle, Grafton Page, Will Smith, Frank Wallace, Clark Wells, Dudley Toncray, St. John Hartsock and Frank Wallace; tenor, C. E. Latimer, and bassos, Dr. A. B. Mitchell and A. L. Barritt.

It is probable that this year there will be no joint celebration of the week of prayer which begins Sunday week except in cases when three or four churches unite. Nearly all the churches, however, will observe the season, and in the case of those churches in the neighborhood of the Luther Memorial and Vermont Avenue Churches, there is to be a joint series of mexings at the former church. The Presbyterian churches, of which there are in the neighborhood of eighteen in the city are the

a joint series of meetings at the former church. The Presbyterian churches, of which there are in the neighborhood of eighteen in the city, are to hold joint meetings at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, and a celebration of the communion at the Church of the Covenant.

The First Baptist Church is to hold Christmas services tomorrow. The music at the church recently has been sung by the congregation without the aid of a choir, but tomorrow there is to be a quartet, assisted by a practiced chorus of twenty-five voices. The quartet is as follows: Mrs. Gardner, scprano; Mrs. C. B. Rheen, alto; Melville Hensey, tenor; Professor N. Dushane Cloward, bass, and Percy S. Foster, organist and director.

d'rector.
Yesterday evening the Sunday school of
North Capitol M. E. Church held its annual
Christmas celebration. There was a juvenile drill under the direction of Miss Lizrice King, a large tree and a Santa Claus fouse. Candy was distributed to about three hundred and fifty scholars. The Sunday school of Wesley M. E. Church has elected officers as follows: Su-perintendent, W. Relin Woodward; assist-

ants, J. S. Barker, Miss Nellie Huff ants, J. S. Barker, Miss Nedle Huff, Miss Carrie Huff; superinteadent of the home department, which now numbers one hundred, Mrs. Anna Woodward; secretary, Morris Woodward; treasurer, J. S. Barker, and librarian, T. Pursell Woodward.

The Methodist Union, which was to have beld a macting. Manlay corning with the macting with the macti

A DAY WITH A MEMBER at his lodgings, and this again demands his attention. All told, he may have a dozen letters during the day, or he may have fifty. The lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the afternoon he may disperse the lighter mail of the lighter mai The president is Mr. G. W. F. Swartzell.
A number of workers of the Central Union
Mission, headed by Mr. J. M. Muncaster,
are to assist Rev. Charles L. Pate, pastor of
North Capitol Church, in holding the services of the week of prayer. The first one
will be the watch night service, and the
last on the 12th of January.
Arrangements are being made for the installation of the new officers of the District
Enworth League, the exercises in courses.

stallation of the new officers of the District Epworth League, the exercises in connection with which will take place at Hamiline M. E. Church Wednesday evening, January 8, 1896. Presiding Elder Wilson will officiate as chairman of the meeting, and Representative James E. Watson of Indiana, ex-president of the Indiana Epworth League, will deliver an address. Banners will be presented to the senior and junior chapters shewing the largest proportionate gain during the year. An orchestra has been secured to help with the music.

Archbishop Gross of Portland, Ore., a brother of Alfred G. Gross of this city, has come east to attend the ceremonies in connection with Investing Cardinal Satolli

come east to attend the ceremonies in con-rection with investing Cardinal Satolli with the symbols of his new office. He will preach in St. Paul's Catholic Church to-morrow, and will be the guest of Rev. Father Mackin. He was formerly bishop of Savannah, Ga., and comes of an old Balti-more family. He began his cierical career as a Redemptorist father, and during the late war he served as chaplain at the hos-pital in Annapolis.

THE ROAD BETWEEN.

A Bit of Life and Death in the Cumberland Mountains. From the Detroit Free Press.

A cabin beside the rude trail leading up the slope of a mountain—two or three acre of half-cultivated ground-poverty within and poverty without. An old and halfstarved mule wandering about-three or four dogs lying in the sun-a mountaineer and his wife smoking their pipes on the doorstep. It is ignorance in solitude-contentment in poverty. It is half an hour since the wife joined her husband, and yet ot a word has passed between them, She knits and smokes and raises her eyes only at long intervals. He smokes and thinks and his gaze is on the tree tops across the road. Queer people, these mountaineers of the Cumberland. They are stoical, silent, vary, morose. They are always thinking and thinking. They seem suspicious even of each other. They come and go-they live—they die, but as no other class of people. They have their ways, and their ways descend from father to son. By and by the man speaks. Without taking his eyes from the tree tops or the pipe from his mouth

he says:
"Joe's a-comin'."
"Reckon he ar'," replied the wife without "Reckon he ar'," replied the wife without looking up.

A quarter of a mile down the trail is a man walking slowly and carrying a rifle on his shoulder. Neither of those on the doorstep have seen him, but their quick ears have detected the sound of footsteps among the stones. They do no' look after speaking. Their eyes are not fixed upon him until he stands before them and lets the but of his rifle fall to the ground.

"Howdy?" says the new arrival.

"Howdy?" answer man and woman in chorus.

"Powerful hot?"
"Yes, powerful."
No more is said until Joe fills and lights No more is said until Joe fills and lights his pipe, and takes a seat on a near-by stump. Then the woman, her eyes on his feet, quietly asks:

"Recken him orter do it, Joe?"

"Of co'se him orter," replies Joe.

"Yes, fur shore," adds the husband.

"It'll be the ole man?" said the woman after a payer leasting two minutes.

after a pause, lasting two minutes.
"The ole man, of co'se," added the hus-

One of the dogs lazily arose and walked over and licked Joe's hand, and in return he patted the animal's head in a half-kind he patted the animal's head in a half-kind way. It was five minutes before any one spoke again. The wife had grown pale-faced, and her fingers trembled as she piled the needles. There was something like anxiety in her tones as she said:
"I wish Jim wouldn't do it. I don't like this killin'."
"Hev to kill," replied Joe as he took the dog's ear in his hand.
"Yes, hev to kill," added the husband as he arose and yawned and stretched his limbs.

"Got to make suah work."
"Yes, suah work. Come fur it tomor-

"Reckon I will. Day to yo' all."
When the caller had gone his way the husband sat down and freshly filled his pipe and made another examination of the rifie. A long silence was broken by the

"What's the fussin', Jim?"
"Same as befo."
"The ole man Taylor and our two hogs?"
"Yes. He wants damages, and I won't

"Gwine ter kill him?"

"Fur shore."
"Wish.yo' wouldn't." "Got ter.

"Got ter."

That ended the conversation. When he had exhausted his pipe be knocked the ashes out and rose up and entered the cabin. There was whisky in the cupboard and he had a history in the cupboard and he had be helped himself. and he helped himself to a drink. Wher he reappeared at the door he stood for a moment, looking about, and the half-asleet dogs roused up and came gambe

nis feet.
"Gwine now?" queried the wife.
"Yes, gwise now."
He kicked the dogs aside and went off up the trail. The woman sat with her eyes on her work, and he cast no backward glance. The dogs followed for a few rods gaince. Ine dogs followed for a few rods and then gave it up and returned to their dusty beds. Two miles up the trail was Taylor's cabin. It was the same sort of a b.cvel—same poor acres grown up to weeds—same poverty of pocket and intellect. lect. A woman sat smoking on the door-step, but she was alone. Her husband had gone down the trail with his rifle on his

shoulder. "Gwine to kill Jim Green?" she asked as he was ready to go.
"Reckon so," he replied as he moved away.
Two cabins—two wives on the doorsteps—

Two cabins—two wives on the doorsteps—two men with rifles on the trail between. At that hight above the sea sound travels a long distance. Both women heard the crack of a rifle by and by, but both smoked cn. After an hour or two Taylor returned home. When he had lighted his pipe and taken a seat beside her, the wife asked: "Leave him down thar'?" was the reply.

ply. Two or three hours later a man stopped before the other cabin and said to the man smoking her pipe on the doorstep:

popped." " she asked, pointing up the trail.
"Yes, up thar'."
"Lyin' dead?" "Lyin' dead?"
"Yes, lyin' dead. Good eavenin'."
"Eavenin' to yo'."

Wouldn't Break the Law. From the New York Mail and Express.

A weary and disheveled man tolled pain fully over the promenade of the Brooklyn bridge. He clung closely to the iron work on the right side of the walk and occasionally stopped to reflect.

"Why don't you get out in the middle here?" asked a policeman who had been watching the actions of the unsteady pedes "'Gainst the law, ole fel," was the reply.

'Guess you don't know me, hey?" "No, I don't know you," returned the policeman. "Where do you live?"
The man waved his hand in the direction of Brooklyn,
"Brooklyn?" queried the policeman.

The man nodded. "Don't know me?" he mumbled. "Why, I'm Joe Team. Live in Joi man street." "Jeroloman street?" "Um. Jol man street."

"Um. Jol man street."

"Well, why don't you get out here away from the side?"

"Why," repeated the wobbly gentleman, with a foolish smile. "Can't you read? Look at that sign there. Whatcher want me to do-break er law? Read a sign."

The policeman looked over into the roadway and this is what he read:

"Loaded teams will keep to the right."

He Understood Her. From Puck. Mrs. Gossippy-"About such things

these, John, the less said the better." Gossippy (with resignation)—"Tell me the

Mr. Rakemann's Hopes for the New Washington Symphony Orchestra.

Expectation That It May Give Its

The new Washington Symphony Orches-

tra, which made its first appearance in connection with the performance of the "Messlah" by the Choral Society, demonstrated its ability to properly interpret Handel's beautiful score, and Director Sherman was quite pleased with its work. Mr. Herman Rakemann, who has worked for several months to bring together this orchestra, felt gratified at the work of his force, and hopes that now the public, or such portion of it as attended this representation of the "Messiah" at Convention Hall, has heard the orchestra and discovered what it can do, will now come forward and add to the subscription list now at Droop's music store, so that the sum deemed necessary may soon be realized to enable the orchestra to give a concert that will fully demonstrate its ability. Mr. Rakemann says that all he desires is

Mr. Rakemann says that all he desires is to insure against loss, and he thinks that an organization such as he has assembled, composed as it is of picked performers, the very best upon their respective instruments in the District, should receive the hearty and substantial encouragement of the music-loving community. If properly supported this orchestra will be a source of pride as well as gratification to the beople of Washington, for it will show other cities that this city can furnish a symphony orchestra of its own and that it will not be obliged to go to Baltimore or anywhere else to secure an orchestra to accompany the Choral or any other society.

The District has several orchestral bodies that have reflected credit upon the local instrumental musicians. First and foremost is the Georgetown Amateur Orchestra,

that have reflected credit upon the local instrumental musicians. First and foremost is the Georgetown Amateur Orchestra, whose work long ago outgrew the character of amateurship indicated in its title; then there are the Wilhelmj Club, the Wagner Club, the Washington String Orchestra and others that might be named. All these have done creditable work, and the new orchestra of Mr. Rakemann adds another to the honorable list. It is believed that additional signatures to the subscription list will be rapidly made, so that the Washington Symphony Orchestra can give its first concert early in the new year.

News comes from Mr. Harry Wheaton Howard, who is now hard at work in Berlin. He won his entrance into the school at which he is studying in competition with about a hundred applicants, being well up on the list of the twenty who were successful. Besides devoting himself to plano, organ and composition, he has found time to complete a romantic and a comic opera, which will see the light under favorable auspices. His many friends in this city will be gratified to learn of his progress, for no young man has gone from this city with a higher ambition or more indomitable perseverance. These, united to his natural talent, should place him in the front rank of musicians all in good time.

Anton Kaspar is diligently studying in

time.

Anton Kaspar is diligently studying in Prague, and his teacher speaks in high terms of his preparatory equipment, which was furnished by his brother, Prof. Josef Kaspar. His musicianly speech is also recognized, and he promises to become a brilliant violin virtuoso.

Miss Ruth Thompson sang Ben Bolt at the "Trilby" performance three times last tweek, taking Miss Clary's place, who was called to New York. This week Miss Fielding Roselle has been the vocalist, Miss Clary being ill in New York, and it is not unlikely that Miss Rosele will sing with the company in Philadelphia. Miss Roselle has made rapid strides since she took up her made rapid strides since she took up her residence in New York, and has already

the needles. There was something like anxiety in her tones as she said:
"I wish Jim wouldn't do it. I don't like this killin'."
"Hev to kill," replied Joe as he took the dog's ear in his hand.
"Yes, hev to kill," added the husband as he arose and yawned and stretched his limbs.
Joe held the rifle out to him, and he took it and hefted it and examined its several parts and nodded his head with satisfaction.
"Yo' kin drap him at forty rods," said Joe, as he pushed the dog away.
"From thirty-five to forty," answered Jim, as he brought the weapon up and sighted along the barrel.
"Got to make suah work."
"residence in New York, and has already gained quite a reputation as a cholr, concert and oretorlo singer. She has already engagements to sing in the "Messiah" and "Elijah" for this season.
At St. Patrick's Church, New Year eve, there will be a special Thanksgiving service, at which Cardinal Satolli will officiate and Bishop Keane will preach. The muslo will be of an exceptionally high order, the principal feature being a Te Deum composed in honor of Cardinal Satolli by Mr. Rufus C. Garland, and which will be given with full orchestral accompaniment by the large choir of this church, the whole to be under the direction of Sig. Mariano Maina. The Deum is said to be a composition of high merit, and there is no doubt of its

high merit, and there is no doubt of its

high merit, and there is no doubt of its being adequately interpreted.

At the First Congregational Church, corner 10th and G streets northwest, tomorrow, at 11 a.m., the choir will render the following: Recitative and air, Comfort Ye and Every Valley, Messiah (Handel); anthem, Christmas (Harry Rose Shelley); anthem, Nazareth (Gounod); Hallelujah Chorus, Messiah (Handel); hymns appropriate for Christmas services. The choir is as follows: Organist, John W. Bischoff, Mus. Doc.; assistant organist, Miss Minnie Mus. Doc.; assistant organist, Miss Minnie M. Bailey. Quartet—Mrs. Hattie Meade Mus. Doc.; assistant organist, Miss Minnie M. Balley, Quartet—Mrs. Hattie Meade Smith, soprano; Miss Florence McNelly, contraito; Mr. Douglas G. Miller, tenor; Mr. Elphonzo Youngs, jr., basso. Chorus—soprani—Miss Kathieen Bailey, Mrs. Florence L. Barringer, Miss Elsie M. Bond, Miss Annie E. Burlingame, Mrs. Mary Campbell, Miss Wea M. Coleman, Miss Margaret B. Crawford, Miss Ermina M. Davis, Miss Helen A. Davis, Miss Ida Green, Miss Kate M. Latham, Miss May A. Levers, Miss Margaret E. Lewis, Miss Adelia Estelle Mathewson, Miss Nannie K. Monfett, Mrs. Alice M. Offterdinger, Mrs. Mary Willie Pattee, Miss Ilia M. Pond, Miss Jeannette Ray, Miss Elise E. Raymond, Miss Jessie Stevens and Miss Dayelle Taylor. Alti—Mesdames Emily Ellwood Allen and Julia G. Burnett, Misses Lizzle A. Caywood, Edna A. Clark, Minnie L. Doane, Letta Fisher, Zaidee W. Gibson, Contraide Meade Inheren. Lizzie A. Caywood, Edna A. Clark, Minnie L. Doane, Letta Fisher, Zaidee W. Gibson, Gertrude Maud Johnston, Anne Lamborn, Ellen E. Matthews, Alice H. Peabody, Mabel V. Platt and Mary E. Pond. Tenori—Messrs. David L. Burnett, Philip W. Coleman, Henry Allen Hazen, George C. Johnston, Henry Player, David G. Proctor, James S. Raymond and Harry S. Tullis. Bassi—Messrs. Walter Ellwood Allen, Victor S. Barber, Horatio K. Bradford, Jesse C. Brooke, David H. Clark, Samuel S. Gardner, Wilmer E. Griffith, Wilbor H. Martin, Orlando M. McPherson, Russell E. McWhinney, Edward L. Morris, Frederick A. Pinney, Frank Ayers Nute and Dr. N. Willis Pomeroy. Librarian—Mr. Walter Allen.

Allen The First Baptist Church will have its special Christmas service tomorrow, on which occasion there will be a chorus choir in charge of Mr. P. S. Foster, at both which occasion there will be a chorus cholr in charge of Mr. P. S. Foster, at both morning and evening service. In the morning the program will be: Sing Alleluia Forth, Buck, chorus; Birth of Christ, Tipton, N. D. Cloward; Sing and Sing the Blessed Morn, Leslie, chorus. Evening—The Glad Tidings, Brewer; He Was Despised, Messiah, Miss Blanche Yewell; Sing, Oh. Heavens, Tours, chorus, Mrs. F. A. Gardner, soloist; Noel, Adams, baritone solo; Bethlehem, Coombs, chorus, Mr. Melville Hensey, soloist. The chorus will consist of about twenty voices from the Rubinstein and Capital Glee Clubs.

Rev. Dr. Radcliffe, pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, is arranging a "vigil service" for New Year eve, to be held in the church, on which occasion the music will be in charge of Mr. N. DuSlane Cloward, who has organized a chorus of forty voices for the event. The program will consist of All Praise to God, Wagner; Beyond the Smiling, Zundee, by the chorus; Ring out, Wild Bells, Gounod, Mrs. F. A. Gardner: One Sweetly Solemp Thought, Ambrox, Mr. Cloward.

Living Posters.

From the Chicago Tribune.

The newest of all new things—newer than the new woman, even-is planned for the annual promenade concert of the Visiting Nurses' Association to be given at the First Regiment Armory next week.

The living poster has never been seen either in Chicago or anywhere else. The originals to be reproduced are selected from the works of Chenet, Grasset and Lutree, Dudley Hardy and Beardsley and tree, Dudley Hardy and Beardsley and Rhead. The living posters will be advertised by a special poster, which is being designed for the committee by an artist at the art institute. Copies of this poster will be on sale, and those who have been favored with a view of it say it is a charming creation, and almost a portrait of one of the women who will take bart in the representation. This poster is under the supervision of Mrs. C. P. Abbott.

The tableaux will be exact reproductions of the original posters, and will be shown

The tableaux will be exact reproductions of the original posters, and will be shown in frames, after the fashion of pictures. The background will be painted in, and the figures will be done by a number of young women, who are almost daily rehearsing in their decidedly difficult roles.